

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached two sheets of drawings include the following changes:

In Figs. 1 and 2, English language text labels have been added.

Attachments: Replacement Figs. 1 and 2

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are all the pending claims, with claims 1 and 9 being written in independent form. By virtue of this amendment, Applicants add new dependent claims 17 and 18.

I. Drawings:

The Examiner objects to the drawings because the text labels are in a foreign language. Applicants submit replacement Figs. 1 and 2 implementing text labels in the English language.

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to acknowledge receipt and indicate approval of replacements Figs. 1 and 2 in the next Patent Office paper.

II. Claim Objection:

The Examiner objects to claim 1 because it recites the objectionable term “date.” To address the Examiner’s concerns, Applicants amend claim 1 by altogether deleting the objectionable term.

III. Claim Rejection On Prior Art Grounds:

The Examiner rejects claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over US 5,974,572 to Weinberg et al. (“Weinberg”) in view of US

5,987,242 to Bentley et al. ("Bentley"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection in view of the following remarks.

A. Independent Claim 1:

Independent claim 1 recites (among other things) a directory for storing "*an object name of the automation object,*" and that the object name is "*assigned to a directory entry*" that includes certain information. An example, non-limiting embodiment of these features is depicted in Fig. 1. Here, the directory V stores object names O1-On of automation objects. Each object name is assigned a directory entry. For example, object name O1 is assigned a directory entry OE1. This directory entry OE1 contains certain information data (e.g., O11 – O14). At least the "object name" and "directory entry" features (as recited in independent claim 1), in combination with the other features recited in claim 1, are not taught or suggested by the prior art relied upon by the Examiner.

The Examiner relies heavily upon the Weinberg reference to teach all of the features of the claimed invention except for an automation object that can be worked on by a number of users in parallel, and therefore looks to the Bentley reference to allegedly teach this feature. In so doing, the Examiner compares Weinberg's site graph object to the automation object of the claimed invention. This rejection position is not convincing.

The Weinberg Reference

Fig. 8 of the Weinberg reference illustrates an object model used by the Astra program. As correctly pointed out by the Examiner, the site graph object 114 corresponds generally to the map of a website. Weinberg does not, however, teach or suggest a directory for storing an object name of the site graph object 114, much less that the object name is assigned to a directory entry that includes certain information.

The “Object Name” Feature

According to the Examiner, the “object name” feature of the claimed invention is met by Weinberg’s site map. Applicants acknowledge that the site map shown in Fig. 3 (which is cited by the Examiner for support) graphically illustrates the nodes of the web site. And the nodes include names, such as “Mercury Interactive Produc.” (associated with a parent node 44) and “uparrow” and “xrunner” (associated with children nodes 48). However, the names within the site map relate to node objects, which are subclasses of the site graph object 114.¹ That is, the alleged names relate to subcomponents of the site graph object 114, but none of them constitute a name of the site graph object itself. Certainly then, Weinberg does not teach or suggest a directory for storing “*an object name of the automation object,*” as recited in independent claim 1.

¹ Weinberg, col. 19, lines 11-14.

The “Directory Entry” Feature

Turning to the next point, the Examiner compares various portions of Weinberg’s disclosure as meeting the “directory entry” feature of the claimed invention. In so doing, however, the Examiner again relies on Weinberg’s disclosure directed to information about node objects (which are merely subclasses of the site graph object 114) and not the site graph object 114 itself. Certainly then, Weinberg does not teach or suggest that the object name (of the site graph object 114) is “*assigned to a directory entry*” that includes certain information, as recited in independent claim 1.

Weinberg’s “Automation” Objects

Applicants respectfully point out that Weinberg defines OLE (Object Linking and Embedding) as:

an object technology, implemented by Windows-based applications, which allows objects to be linked to one another and embedded within one another. OLE Automation, which is a feature of OLE 2, enables a program's functionality to be exposed as OLE objects that can be used to build other applications.
(Weinberg, col. 7, lines 28-37).

Thus the expression “Automation” in “OLE Automation objects” (appearing at col. 19, lines 1+) belongs to “OLE” and not to “objects.” In other words, “OLE Automation objects” are objects of “Ole Automation,” which according to definitions of OLE Automation on the Web (Google: “ole automation” AND “definition”) is “The ability of a server application to make its own objects

available for use in a macro language with another application” or “a technology that Microsoft provides as a way to manipulate ActiveX objects from outside the application that defines them.”

Certainly then, Weinberg is not pertinent to the “automation object” of the claimed invention, which is an object (i.e. component) of an “(industrial) automation system,” e.g. a system for process control (c.f. US 2002/0072819). In short, “OLE Automation objects” according to Weinberg and “automation objects” of the instant application are not comparable.

For these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner’s reliance upon the Weinberg reference is misplaced. Accordingly, even if combined in the manner suggested by the Examiner, the prior art would still not meet each and every feature of the claimed invention.

B. Independent Claim 9:

Independent claim 9 is somewhat similar to claim 1 to the extent that claim 9 recites (among other things) a memory for storing “*an object name of an automation object as a directory entry in a directory.*” Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 9 is patentable for reasons analogous to those noted above with respect to claim 1.

C. New Claims 17 and 18:

New claims 17 and 18 are believed to be patentable by virtue of their dependencies from independent claims 1 and 9, respectively. Claims 17 and 18 are also believed to be patentable because they recite (albeit in slightly different formats) “*object names*” of “*automation objects*” in the plural, and that the object names are stored with certain information. The Weinberg reference is simply not pertinent.

According to Weinberg, the scanning of a Web site produces only a single site graph object 14, which is navigable to facilitate analysis, management and load testing of the Web site. Thus, Weinberg does not teach or suggest a plurality of site graph objects. Indeed, it would be illogical to produce multiple site graph objects for a given Web site since this may lead to inaccurate and/or defective information about the Web site content. For example, assume first and second site graph objects were created. Web site changes implemented via the first site graph object would not be reflected in the second site graph object. This would lead to the second site graph object containing incorrect and outdated information. As a result, the intended use of Weinberg (i.e., to control and manage Web site content) may be altogether defeated.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration and

allowance of each of claims 1-18 is earnestly solicited.

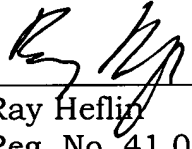
If any matters remain at issue in the application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 668-8000 in the Northern Virginia area, for the purpose of a telephonic interview.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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